

What is claimed is:

1 1. An inventory management system for patient goods and services
2 as prescribed by a prescribing party, comprising:

3 a funding resource center having a resource control system
4 therein, for receiving patient funds, and for allocating at least
5 one of patient funds, purchased third-party goods and purchased
6 third-party services according to said resource control system;

7 an eligibility processing center for receiving patient claim
8 and patient evaluator information, and providing patient
9 qualification determination information to said resource center;
10 and

11 an aggregate resource center having a contracting system for
12 optimizing the delivery of third party goods and services according
13 to qualified prescribed patient needs and logistics, said aggregate
14 resource center also including a goods warehouse and distribution
15 system for conveying said qualified prescribed patient needs and
16 services.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein said funding resource center
2 comprises one of a private healthcare provider, a public healthcare
3 provider and an insurance company.

1 3. The system of claim 1, wherein said funding resource center
2 includes a business-to-business purchasing system for purchasing
3 goods from at least one of a manufacturer and a supplier.

1 4. The system of claim 3, wherein said purchasing system includes
2 a system for shipping goods acquired by said funding resource
3 center from said manufacture and said supplier to said aggregate
4 resource center.

1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein said aggregate resource center
2 includes a capital funding source.

1 6. The system of claim 1, wherein said aggregate resource center
2 comprises a third party.

1 7. The system of claim 1, further including small goods and
2 service providers.

1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein one of said funding resource
2 center and said aggregate resource center includes a service
3 provider scheduler.

1 9. The system of claim 1, further including a disposal system for
2 disposing of goods which have exceeded their economic lifetime.

1 10. The system of claim 1, wherein said eligibility processing
2 center comprises a third party eligibility processing center.

1 11. A method of managing inventory and distribution of patient
2 goods and services as prescribed by a prescribing party, comprising
3 the steps of:

4 controlling patient resources including the steps of receiving
5 money for said patient and distributing said money upon receipt of
6 a prescription request and eligibility pre-certification;

7 pre-certifying patient prescriptions for disbursement of
8 patient resources by comparing said patient prescription to a
9 predetermined pre-certification requirement; and

10 distributing to said patient at least one of goods and
11 services in response to money distributed by said step of
12 controlling patient resources.

1 12. The method of claim 11, further including the step of
2 purchasing goods for distribution to said patient.

1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said step of purchasing goods
2 comprises the step of business-to-business purchasing goods.

1 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving goods back from said patient, and
3 updating system inventory.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further including the step of
2 redistributing the goods to a subsequent patient.

1 16. The method of claim 11, further including the step of
2 scheduling the delivery of said goods and service according to said
3 step of controlling patient resources.

1 17. The method of claim 16, further including the step of
2 coordinating the delivery of goods and services with the discharge
3 of said patient from a hospital.

1 18. The method of claim 16, wherein said services comprises one of
2 third party therapy and third party technical services.

1 19. The method of claim 16, wherein the step of scheduling
2 delivery includes the step of scheduling payment to providers of
3 said goods and services.

1 20. The method of claim 11, wherein said step of distributing
2 further includes the steps of

3 selecting a plurality of third-party source of said goods and
4 services,

5 patient selecting of one of said plurality of third party
6 sources, and

7 distributing patient money thereto for rendering prescribed
8 goods and services to said patient.

1 21. The method of claim 11, further including the steps of:
2 determining the need of goods from prior patient
3 prescriptions, and
4 centrally manufacturing said goods in a quantity according to
5 said prior patient need.

1 22. The method of claim 11, further including the steps of:
2 anticipating patient needs according to prior patient needs,
3 and
4 geographically distributing said goods according to the
5 anticipated patient needs.